

# Desire the Office of Bishop?

1 Tim 3:1-2

## 1 Tim. 3:1

***This is a true saying*** Makes this kind of statement 5 times in Pastoral Epistles

1 Tim 1:15 ; 3:1; 1 Tim 4:9; 2 Tim 2:11; Titus 3:8

***Saying:*** Expression, statement, word.

***True:*** simple, great, reliable, a considered judgment. .

***If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work.***

***Desire:*** to stretch one's self out in order to touch or grasp something; to passionately long after.

***Office:*** Superintendancy, position, authority

***Bishop:*** Overseer, used synonymously with Elder, supervise and give oversight Focus of Bishop: work to be done

Focus of Elder: dignity

Phil. 1:1

***Good work:*** Noble, credible

***Work:*** task. Requires great amount of energy and sacrifice

If desire the office of bishop—that's good. h

## First Claim Principle

## 1 Tim. 3:2

***Must be blameless,*** Above reproach. Not to be laid unassailable, consistent in

lifestyle. Cannot be reprehended, not open to censure, irreproachable

Doesn't mean "sinless" or "without error" or perfect.

Has to do with attitude: willing to repent when inconsistencies pointed out!

Actively pursuing a clear conscience.

***The husband of one wife,*** a one-woman man. Focused on wife.

Infidelity—God condemns in Word. I

When a man of God takes liberties in area of moral purity he discredits himself for the office of Pastor.

Sense of verse: This man will have nothing to do with any other woman.

God's attitude about adultery

Lev. 20:10 Deut. 22:23-24 Prov. 6:29 Prov. 6:32 Prov. 6:33

***...husband of one wife...*** not divorced.

Unquestioned morality

Entirely true and faithful to one and only wife.

Rom. 7:1-3 Gen 2:18 1 Tim. 4:1-3 1 Cor. 7:9

***...husband of one wife***

A man cannot be the Bishop or Pastor of a church if he is divorced and remarried.

Wiersbe: *Paul was certainly not referring to polygamy, since no church member, let alone a pastor, would be accepted if he had more than one wife. Nor is he referring to remarriage after the death of the wife; for why would a pastor be prohibited from marrying again in light of Gen 2:18 and 1 Tim 4:3? Certainly the members of the church who had lost mates could marry again, so why penalize the pastor?*

**Vigilant**, watchful, careful, alert to danger; not carried away with every slight of doctrine.

Calm, dispassionate, circumspect.

Not quick to get on someone's bandwagon.

**Sober**, discreet, temperate, earnest.

Not swayed by sudden impulse.

Always ready and willing to learn.

**Of good behaviour**, orderly. Modest.

Dignity.

Outward action consistent with character of God.

**Good**: beautiful, virtuous, valuable

**Behavior**: orderly

**Given to hospitality**, fond of guests. Friend of strangers.

**Apt to teach**; instructive and skilled in teaching. Qualified, trained to teach, willing to teach.

Phillips Brooks: *Apt to teach—it is not something to which one come by accident or by any sudden burst of fiery zeal'*

Diligent and careful student of the Word.

Wiersbe: *The pastor who is lazy in his study is a disgrace in the pulpit.*

## So What?

1. Blameless—above reproach
2. Husband of one wife—a one-woman man...morally pure?
3. Vigilant—Watchful, careful, alert to spiritual danger?
4. Sober—discrete, sound mind.
5. Good behavior—lifestyle consistent with character of God?
6. Given to hospitality—Love to meet needs of people... lover of strangers?
7. Apt to teach—teachable spirit...learning how to more effective in the communication of Biblical truth?